GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1487
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2007
UN MILLENIUM REPORT
Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan);Suman Shri Ramji Lal

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the Millennium Report- 2007 of the United Nations;

(b) if so, whether serious concern has been expressed in the above mentioned report on increasing economic disparity; (

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the Government has proposed to take any measures in the wake of the concern expressed in the above report; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN)

(a) and (b): The Government is aware of the Millennium Development Goals Report 2007 brought out by the United Nations. This report presents a comprehensive global assessment of progress to date, based on a set of data prepared by a large number of international organisations within and outside the United Nations system. According to this report, the benefits of economic growth in the developing world have been unequally shared, both within and among countries. Between 1990 and 2004, the share of national consumption by the poorest fifth of the population in developing regions decreased from 4.6 to 3.9 percent.

(c) to (e): According to the Approach Paper to the Eleventh Five Year Plan, the Eleventh Plan provides an opportunity for restructuring policies to achieve a new vision based on faster, more broad-based and inclusive growth. The Approach Paper to the Eleventh Five Year Plan, as approved by the National Development Council, has set the growth target for the Eleventh Five Year Plan period at 9% per year and aims at putting the economy on a sustainable growth trajectory with a growth rate of approximately 10% by the end of its period. This high growth, as such is expected to reduce the economic disparities. The Approach Paper targets faster growth in all productive sectors, agriculture, industry and services, with suitable interventions in policy. The Approach Paper also aims at more inclusive growth. It seeks to achieve inclusiveness through significant improvements in literacy/education and health, greater employment opportunities and more focus on various socio-economic groups. The objectives of faster and more inclusive growth are encapsulated in a set of precise targets in the areas of
(i) Income & Poverty
(ii) Education
(iii) Health
(iv) Women and Children issues,
(v) Infrastructure, and
(vi) Environment.